

H₂O happenings observa-



April–August 2010

Volume 5, Issue 2

A Quarterly Publication of the WATER Center

The WATER Center is a project of the City of Wichita's Public Works Department

Three Billion Gallons...and Counting

The WATER Center began pumping contaminated groundwater from below downtown Wichita in 2002. The treatment system is removing pollutants (called "chlorinated solvents") that entered the groundwater over several decades.

This spring, the Center will have treated its three-billionth gallon of water.

How much water is cleaned daily?

On average the WATER Center "air strips" 1.2 million gallons of water each day or about 800 gallons per minute.

Three billion doesn't seem that big. Don't let that "three" deceive you! To make one billion, you must have 1000-one millions.

For the WATER Center to reach a billion gallons of clean water, the treatment system needs to run about 835 days or a little less than 2.5 years. We estimate that we'll treat about 12 billion gallons by the time the project is complete. You do the math!

That IS big!

A river 2-feet deep and 50-feet wide would have to be 760 miles long to hold 3,000,000,000 gallons of water.

Senior Wednesdays

First Wednesdays—1:30 PM

Active Adults - No registration needed

Senior Wednesdays are informational and entertaining sessions, designed for active seniors and offered by a collaboration of ten institutions.

Funding for this project was provided in part by the Kansas Health Foundation, Wichita, KS. The Kansas Health Foundation is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to improve the health of all Kansans.

May 5

The Riverside Boathouse, by Kent Carter. Hear about the Wichita's "original" boat house from a descendent of its founding family, the Israels.

June 2

Kansas Healthy Yards and Communities, by Bob Neier. Our choices in our yards influence the entire community. When we choose practices that minimize environmental impact, everyone benefits.

July 7th & August 4th

To Be Announced

Meetings & Events

Visitors are welcome to attend any of the following public meetings held each month at the WATER Center.

April

7th **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 PM

May

5th **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 PM
6th **Arkansas River Coalition**
Annual Potluck 6:00-9:00 PM

June

2nd **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 PM

July

7th **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 PM
12th **Arkansas River Coalition**
6:00-9:00 PM

August

4th **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 PM

Museum is Open From:
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
Closed Holidays

The WATER Center
101 E. Pawnee
is located in
Herman Hill Park

Open daily sunrise to sunset
18-hole disc golf course
Accessible trails
Playground equipment
Picnic areas

**Skateboarding, swimming and
fishing are prohibited**



101 E. Pawnee
Wichita, KS 67211

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The WATER Center

Spring & Summer Programs—2010

FISH TALES STORY TIME

0–7 Year Olds

FISH TALES

Second Tuesday of every month

No registration needed

Join the WATER Center staff for story time and a nature activity! This program is designed for Pre-K aged children, but all are welcome to attend. Looking for more “wet” reading? Check out your local library for more tales!

FREE

10:00 AM

May 11

I Love Bugs by Philemon Sturges Activity: Make a craft bug!

June 8

We're Going On A Nature Hunt by Steve Metzger

Activity: Go on a nature walk in the park

July 13

Raindrop, Plop! By Wendy Lewison

Activity: Experiment with some wacky droplets

August 10

Little Beaver and The Echo by Amy MacDonald

Activity: Make an animal track

WATER WONDER FAMILY PROGRAMS

All Ages

The “Water Wonder” Family Programs are designed specifically for family groups who want to learn more about water-related topics. What is a water-related topic? Almost anything! Come discover why water is so unique and amazing, what creatures survive in soggy habitats, water conservation techniques, local water history, and more!

The “Water Wonder Family Programs” are economical:

\$20 for a group of one to six people

Additional individuals are \$5 each.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Children who attend must be accompanied by an adult.

Pre-registration Required—Class limit 36

Payment must be received along with registration form.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAYS

YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAYS 2-4 PM FREE

Tuesday, June 8

Tuesday, June 15

Tuesday, June 29

Monday, July 19

Monday, August 2

Pre-registration Required—Class limit 10

To register, use the “Program Registration” form or call/email program coordinator, Libby Albers at: 316-337-9262 or lalbers@wichita.gov

Youth should dress to be outside in clothing that may get dirty and/or wet. Participants will help the WATER Center staff with special projects in the park.

Youth volunteer days are often scheduled in conjunction with USD259's In-service Days.

FISH FEEDINGS

Every Monday and Friday
3:00 PM

CREEKIN'

\$20/GROUP

June 17th, 1:30 PM—3:00 PM or

July 15th, 1:30 PM—3:00 PM

Remember the fun of walking down a gurgling creek? Bring the kids out to share in this classic experience. We'll get our feet soggy while looking at water plants and insects. *Please wear clothes and shoes that can get wet and muddy.*

BEYOND MUD PIES

\$20/GROUP

July 29th, 10 AM—11:30 AM or

August 3rd, 10 AM—11:30 AM

Soil is not just for gardening or making mud pies—it can make great art too! Your family will create a piece of art to take home using paints and other mediums created from native Kansas soils. *Please wear clothes that can get dirty.*

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registration Will Close **5 Days** Before the Program Date

Participant Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

If Under 18, what age: _____ Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Date	Program	Fee	Number	Total
____ June 8	YVD	\$0	____	____
____ June 15	YVD	\$0	____	____
____ June 17	Creekin'	\$20	____	____
____ June 29	YVD	\$0	____	____
____ July 15	Creekin'	\$20	____	____
____ July 19	YVD	\$0	____	____
____ July 29	Beyond Mud Pies	\$20	____	____
____ August 2	YVD	\$0	____	____
____ August 3	Beyond Mud Pies	\$20	____	____

TOTAL FEE _____

Mail Registration to:

PROGRAMS - WATER Center
101 E. Pawnee, Wichita, KS 67211